

Poland

I. The Polish People as They are To-day

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IT is nearly a century and a half since the downfall of the Kingdom of Poland. To-day, however, as one happy consequence of the Great War, the destinies of the country are once more in the hands of a Polish ruler; while, high above the Zamek, the ancient palace of Warsaw, there floats tranquilly the standard of the Republic.

The decline and fall of Poland, once a mighty power of equal strength with Russia—though infinitely more skilful in the use of it, by reason of her Western civilization—came about through her own internal weaknesses. Towards the end of the eighteenth century she sank deeper and deeper into slothful ways, lost confidence in herself, then hope and, finally, when set upon by enemies, found herself incapable of defending her own. Since that time her history has been one long-drawn-out record of sorrow and disaster.

With the hideous voracity of birds of prey which, after long watching, knew that their

hour of triumph had come, the robber-states, Russia, Prussia, and Austria—implacable foes, knowing no mercy—swooped down upon Poland and did as they pleased with their hapless quarry. The infamous partitioning of this country is one of the most familiar events in history. No less than three times was Poland divided. On the last occasion, in 1795, its very name vanished from

the list of free countries in Europe.

It was further deliberately planned that the extinction of nationality among the Poles should follow, and with it all hope of independence. But never were the expectations of tyrants more completely frustrated. The Poles constantly revealed themselves as consumed with a craving for the rehabilitation of their country, and along with this there went an almost incredible intensity of national feeling, efficacious in bringing about an extraordinary fusion of the people, a glowing and passionate



GORGEOUS BRIDAL HEADDRESS

This lofty headdress, gay with brilliant blossoms, is the prerogative of the Lowicz bride, and the multi-coloured streamers, each a gift of the peasant beau, tell their own happy story

Photo, Polish Legation

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PORTABLE DAINTIES FOR SWEET-TOOTHED POLES

Warsaw, the second most important industrial centre of Poland, has numerous manufactures, and business is carried on both within and without doors. At the fashionable confectioners the leisured classes find a limitless collection of dainties to satisfy the most fastidious taste, while here and there in the ancient streets a young sweetmeat vendor may be seen catering for the workaday world

Photo, Donald McLeish

unity. These were the darkest days of Polish history; nevertheless, every recital of the facts of that time only serves to show with what tenacity the Poles clung to their dreams and ideals. As from a fire unquenchable, the flame of freedom burned fiercely within them, and they were determined that it should be theirs

To hope till hope creates,
From its own wreck the thing it con-
templates.

It was hope that renewed their spirits even when the terrific blows inflicted by enemies seemed likely to bring about their annihilation. And

Poland never succumbed. Though virtually non-existent in the eyes of the world, her ghost refused to be laid to rest, and through the years protested in anguish against the tyranny that oppressed her.

And it would be true to say that the world never quite forgot Poland. None the less the great nations of Europe merit reproach in that they ignored to such an extent their unfortunate "brother in exile," and allowed the glorious history and struggles of Poland to become but a dim memory among them.

The outbreak of the Great War thus found Poland broken up into three

POLAND & THE POLES

parts—Russian, German, and Austrian—each part with a different legislative and administrative system, and each separated from the others by definite boundaries, and with distinct customs and duties. These three divisions are now united, and Poland is able, after an interruption of nearly one hundred and fifty years, to resume her national and industrial life.

The country is called Poland, being Polonia in Latin and Polska in Polish, and signifying the country of the plains (pole—plain). Occupying a large area of the Mid-European Plain, its name correctly conveys the idea of limitless space; or, in the words of the poet: "The Polish eagle has her resting place on the peaks of the Carpathians, and stretches forth her wings, one to the Baltic, the other to the Black Sea."

The political boundaries of the Polish Commonwealth did actually stretch from sea to sea. To-day, however, the southern frontier stops short of the Higher Carpathian range and skirts the northern border of Rumania. Thus situated, Poland, as a natural buffer-state, defends practically the whole of Western Europe from Bolshevist Russia. In this respect she has been compared to the great Wall of China, and forms a kind of political isthmus, against which continually beat, on the one side, the destructive forces of the East, and on the other, the relentless compulsions called into being by the economic crises of the West.

In this precarious position, the country has served not only as a highway for transit trade, but as a battlefield of conflicting races. It is on the latter that



COUNTRY COSTUMES STAMPED WITH THE GRACE OF SIMPLICITY

One glance at the peasants of the Warsaw district is sufficient to assure us that both spinning-wheel and loom hold an honoured place in their cottage homes. Staunch to their homespuns, they seldom vary their attire, but modern footgear is an attraction difficult to resist, and high heels not infrequently flaunt themselves in delightful incongruity with the trim simplicity of the peasant dress

Photo, Polish Legation



LUSTY YOUNG LIFE THAT IS FULL OF HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Despite the hardships of recent years, the younger generation—thanks to the self-denying devotion of adult relatives and the never-failing benevolence of innumerable charitable institutions—is rapidly developing into that sturdy material so essential to the upbuilding of a nation, and the character and determination written on this small face should augur well for the Poland of to-morrow

Photo, Donald McLeish



MILITARY POLICE IN THE INDUSTRIAL CAPITAL OF POLAND

Lodz, the Manchester of Poland, is the headquarters of her textile industry. The town, which consists of one main street, five miles in length, was, in the early nineteenth century, but a poor, straggling village. To-day the inhabitants number more than half a million, and, despite the devastating effects of the Great War, industrial enterprise has made a remarkable and rapid recovery

Photo, Donald McLeish



TYPES OF THE POLISH PEASANTRY ASSEMBLED IN A STREET OF ZYRARDÓW

The Polish peasantry in the towns present a more drab and unattractive appearance than those of the countryside who, conservatives to the backbone, wear unashamed their primitive and picturesque attire. But the motley garb of this bearded water-carrier, with breeches made from a coloured bed-spread, though owing nothing to ancestral tradition, would, nevertheless, suggest a vein of unabashed originality no whit inferior to that displayed by the woman on the left, who like many a mother of her class, greets the crowded roads with her boots, the indisputable voucher of respectability, more often in her hands than on her feet



JEWISH VEGETABLE MARKET IN THE GHETTO QUARTER OF WARSAW

The ghetto of Warsaw comprises numerous streets teeming with ill-kempt Jews and closely packed with houses of a dreary, commonplace type, all discoloured and sadly needing repair. A pleasanter scene meets the eye in its vegetable market, from which is diffused the clean, wholesome smell of vegetables fresh from the warm earth of country gardens

Photo, Donald McLeish

Poland has again and again poured out her life-blood. The absence of any natural defences laid her open to the invasions of plundering neighbours. As a Polish writer of the sixteenth century has it: "In our hands only, in our breasts and throats only, is our armoury

—these are our mountains, our waters; these are the castles, walls, and ramparts of Poland."

The szlachta, or nobility, possessed brilliant qualities in plenty: heroism, chivalry, and an intense devotion to intellectual enjoyments. Though



CHARMING DAUGHTERS OF THE LITTLE TOWN OF ZYRARDÓW

Their home is in Zyrardów, a town lying to the west of Warsaw. Philippe de Girard, a noted French mechanic, brought his chief invention, a flax-spinning machine, to that district in 1835, and from that time Zyrardów, as the small town was called to perpetuate the name of its founder, grew in size and prosperity until it became an industrial centre, famous for its excellent cloth

Photo, Donald McLeish



SMALL SONS OF ISRAEL RECEIVING TUITION IN THE OLD FAITH

In the Cheder, or primary school, the boys of the ghetto are taught their letters and the recitation of Scriptural verses. Here, in this ghetto school at Warsaw, an old Rabbi of venerable countenance is seen reading and expounding the Talmud to a few children whose expressive faces, despite their tender years, seem "branded with the mark of antiquity and with the martyrdom of ages"



TILLERS OF THE SOIL OF THE NEW POLISH REPUBLIC

With indomitable energy the Polish peasants have countered much of the severe loss and distress occasioned by warfare. They are now replacing their stolen livestock, retilling devastated grainland, and rebuilding ruined villages. Their weapons of war have been superseded by those of peace; and their dream of land, and peaceful times in which to cultivate it, has been realized

Photos, Donald McLeish



SOME OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST ALIENS AT HOME IN POLAND

In Poland the Jew has never suffered persecution for his religious belief, and during the Middle Ages the country was known as the "Jew's Paradise." These bearded patriarchs of East Galicia, garbed in traditional costume, are enjoying Sabbath leisure by their street doors, and wrangling volubly in the Yiddish tongue over topics of the day or problems of their ancient faith

Photo, Florence Farmborough

worshipping independence and freedom to the verge of insanity, their utter recklessness and lavish modes of living, and the contempt in which they held severe and fatiguing labour, stamped them as unpractical and untrustworthy leaders. Blind to the future, they hardened themselves in their traditional habits and privileged indolence. Such lack of moral fibre as this stood for could ill compete with the stern civic and military qualities of their harsh and aggressive neighbours.

At that time there were but two classes of society in Poland—the nobility and the peasants, the landed and the landless, the owners of the soil and the tillers; and between them there existed a continual friction, a feud which occasioned incessant internal strife. A new element, however, came into being during the latter half of the nineteenth

century, as a consequence of the growth of important industrial districts. This new element was the proletariat of the towns. Ignorant as the majority of them were, they did not omit to claim the rights of their class, and, above everything else, to agitate for the liberation of their country—for in truth the aspirations of all Poles were centred in the one word, Poland.

The Great War brought about the realization of their desires. Poland was freed! Then it was that a passion of patriotism swept over the whole land as never before, knitting nobleman, artisan, and peasant alike in one common brotherhood. The old-time aristocratic contempt for work is passing away, for all too long have the powers and abilities of the intellectual classes been held in restraint. Now that mind and body are slowly recovering from the numbing

POLAND & THE POLES

effects of a long period of subjection to foreign powers, and the trials and miseries of the Great War gradually receding into the background, the Poles are beginning to appreciate the fact that the twentieth century stands to the national life for an epoch very different from the turbulent and tempest-tossed eighteenth century.

They are now quite awake and alive to possibilities; and though the urge of the idealist is still vigorous amongst them, they are, nevertheless, quick to seize any opportunity that may help to re-establish their country on a firm and stable basis. Every Pole feels himself to be a nation-builder, and every Pole is eager to air his views where politics are concerned—a remarkable and praiseworthy recovery, indeed, after the complete political paralysis to which they had been subjected for so long.

The wrongs and sufferings of Poland have in the past wrung but a reluctant

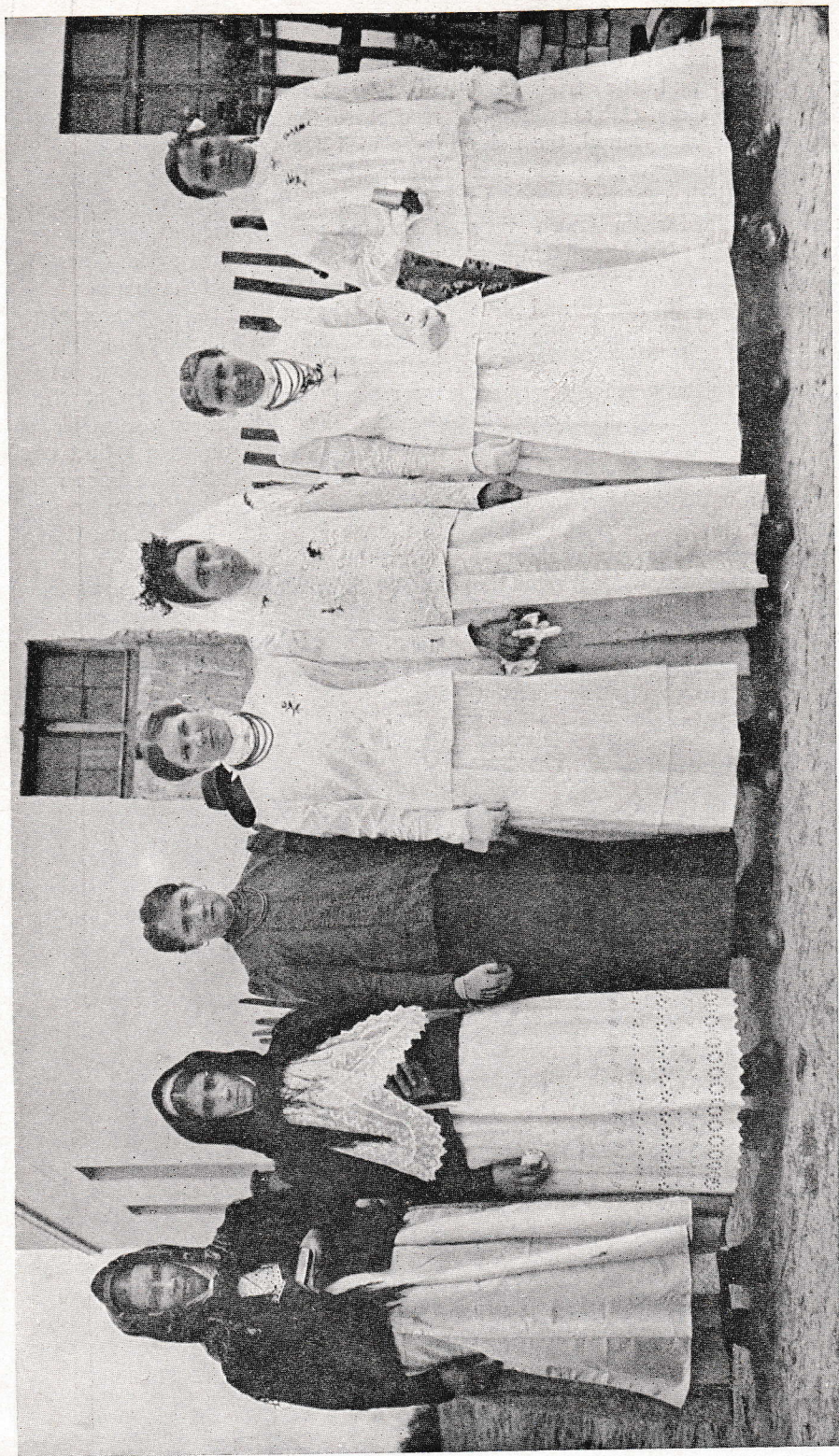
sympathy from the outside world; but there has been no such hesitation with respect to the glory and genius which have won for that country a place in the front ranks of human achievement. Scientists, both men and women, poets, musicians, painters, writers, have sprung up from among this people. There is no branch of Art or of Science in which the Poles have failed to show themselves pre-eminent. A number of Poles, profoundly national in feeling, have, by reason of the catholicity of their genius, endeared themselves to mankind in general to such an extent that one no longer thinks of them as bound by national limitations, but as belonging to the whole world. Thus, Mme. Curie, famous as the discoverer of radium, and Frédéric Chopin, supreme as a writer of romance music for the piano, are both Poles, whose names must live for ever in the hearts of all civilized peoples. Even the conquerors of Poland,



"THE MAGI" IN A SYMBOLIC REPRESENTATION OF THE NATIVITY

The representation is given in various Polish districts during the Christmas fortnight. Sometimes King Herod and Roman soldiers are impersonated, at other times three small boys represent the Magi, who, dressed in quaint, ritual clothing, go from house to house chanting carols—often carrying the *szopka*, a little paper shed, containing miniature figures of the Holy Family

Photo, Polish Legation



POLISH PEASANT BRIDE ATTENDED BY HER RELATIVES AND BRIDESMAIDS IN A VILLAGE OF THE PLAINS

A wedding is a very bright event in the village life of the Polish plains ; all neighbours take a modest part in the rejoicing, and the cup of cheer brims for friend and stranger alike. In these remote hamlets the peasants lead a hard-working, healthy existence ; much work and little play seems to have no ill-effect on them. Their heart is in their work, and the fertile land that supplies their daily bread evokes in them a gratitude which finds expression in a passionate devotion to the soil and an untiring zeal where its tending and cultivation are concerned

Photo, Donald McLetch



COUNTRY EXQUISITES RESPLENDENT IN FESTIVE FINERY

These strapping peasant lads, in their gorgeous garb, are some of the merry-makers at a Polish wedding feast. Their coats are sumptuously embroidered with beautifully-worked designs, and coloured braid, buttons, and beads are lavishly displayed, and even the mountaineer's stick is decorated for the joyous occasion. A broad leather belt completes the showy costume

Photo, Polish Legation

impatient as they were to depose her from her place among European nations, showed themselves, nevertheless, ready to claim as their own some of the most illustrious Polish names. For instance, Kopernik (Copernicus) was appropriated as the "great German astronomer," and Sienkiewicz as the "great Russian novelist." Yet these sons of Poland, as a matter of fact, never swerved in their allegiance to the mother-country, and one has but to study their life and work to understand how truly and wholeheartedly they were Poles.

Precisely as the Poles live, with all the might of their body and with all the fire of their soul, in and for the present, so do they remain ardent adherents of the past. They cherish the memories and revere the history of their nation, and tradition is with them almost a religion. All things that can recall the Poland of yesterday they treasure in their hearts with a genuine affection. But beyond every other appeal which

the past makes to this people the most potent is found in their national heroes. Among these, Jan Sobieski, who, with a handful of men defeated the Turkish invader under the very walls of Vienna in the year 1683, thereby saving European civilization from a portentous fate; Tadeusz Kosciuszko, the friend of liberty, who fought for the independence of the United States of America, and later, in 1794, led his fellow-countrymen against the combined armies of Russia and Prussia; and Josef Poniatowski, the last of Poland's knights, who perished in the ill-fated battle of Leipzig (1813), are especially representative to them of the greatness and grandeur of their country.

The patriotism of the Poles has always been an astonishment to the whole world. To cheer and strengthen their invincible ardour there came from different parts of Europe, albeit somewhat intermittently, voices charged with sympathy and encouragement.



POLISH CINDERELLAS IN THEIR GAY FÊTE DAY GARB

Though beset with the usual household duties of cooking, sweeping, and washing, into which they are initiated at a very early age, the peasant girls of the Chelm, or Holm, district are not lacking in the amenities of social life; and high days and holidays find them ready and eager for the merry-making, and full of conscious pride in their multifarious frills and flounces

Photo, Polish Legation

Among English poets, Byron and Campbell gave compassionate expression to the opinion of their countrymen. Many striking and forceful words were spoken, such as those by the Abbé Lamennais in his "Hymn to Poland," dated from Rome in 1832, full of prophetic significance; "Sleep on, O Poland, sleep! That resting-place they call thy tomb is but thy cradle."

The Poles repeatedly took up arms in the hope of ousting the usurper; in 1806, 1812, 1831, 1846, and 1863 their revolts were violently suppressed; but their faithfulness to the idea of independence lived on and, as an English statesman has said: "The Polish race has many gifts, but perhaps its enduring faith is its most remarkable characteristic."

The interminable life-and-death struggles which seemed to leave no stone upon another deprived the country of any traditional art. All national treasures were, again and

again, literally swept away, and after each devastating war it was necessary to start afresh. The present art of Poland came into being during the nineteenth century. The first Polish painter to attain a European reputation was Juliusz Kossak (1824-99). His love of nature found expression in his beautiful sunlit landscapes and in his exquisite painting of horses, executed with extraordinary and powerful realism. But Polish painting was triumphantly heralded into the great art world by Grottger and Matejko. It was in the past sufferings of his country that Artur Grottger (1837-67) found his inspiration and poured out his soul in three series of marvellous pictures—"Polonia," "Lithuania," and "War."

Jan Matejko (1838-93) stands alone in his genius. The influence of no school ever fell upon him; nature was his sole and supreme teacher, and her he worshipped, and to his mind all beauty lay in truth and the powerful

POLAND & THE POLES

characterizations of truth. Mastery of execution and wealth of colour are the distinguishing marks of the work of many another Polish painter who has won a place of honour among those practising the fine arts. That the new generation will continue faithful to the great mission of Polish art is not to be doubted; and already there are signs

which promise well for the future. It is, however, in the national music of Poland that the soul of the people is reflected in all its individuality and manifold lights and shades, and that the originality and romanticism of Poland take form and expression. Splendidly gifted by nature with the musical temperament, the distinctive



PRACTISING A POPULAR HOME INDUSTRY IN A POLISH VILLAGE

Woodcraft, leather embossing, pottery, nothing comes amiss to the Polish peasant, who in his unostentatious way has developed many a crude, aboriginal industry into a finely-finished and expressive art. Basket-making, too, is much in vogue, for willows abound in most districts. From the young osiers, carefully selected, stout baskets are constructed that find a ready sale

Photo, Polish Legation

POLAND & THE POLES

taste of the Poles in music has long been acknowledged, and the music of the country is as ancient as its history.

The early kings of Poland were enthusiastic patrons of music. They were greeted by music as they passed from town to town, and hired musicians always formed part of their retinue. In the dwellings of the nobles orchestral music was to be heard everywhere, and invariably accompanied their feasts, and during the seventeenth century there was scarcely a lord or high dignitary who had not his own theatre,

orchestra, opera, and even ballet. But though music had been cultivated so ardently for such a considerable period, it was Frédéric Chopin, one of the most interesting and fascinating of personalities, who won for Poland a far-reaching fame in the great world of harmony and sound. His music, rich in forms and ideas, manifests an originality that knows no bounds, and inspired almost entirely by the mystery and sorrow of his own country, has been called the "flower of romanticism." The vein of melancholy that runs



HARD TOIL IN THE MIDST OF BEAUTEOUS AND BOUNTIFUL NATURE

A born agriculturist, the Ruthenian woman of East Galicia is in the fields during seedtime and harvest, and spends long hours in the fertile valleys fringed by the Carpathian highlands, reaping, sometimes single-handed, that which she has sown, not, however, too engrossed in her work to exchange a friend's greeting, or bestow admonition or caress on the youngest-born at her side

Photo, Florence Farmborough

POLAND & THE POLES

through all Chopin's music shows how his country was ever in his thoughts. After hearing the wonderful Funeral March, Liszt declared that: "A Pole alone could have written that funeral march, because all the inborn sublimity and introspect of a people cries out, through Chopin, in that marvellous inspiration, which seems the mourning cry of a whole nation following the bier of their dearest hopes."

Among other musicians of high distinction, belonging to the nineteenth century, must be mentioned Stanislaw Moniuszko, who, although not the originator of opera in Poland, was the creator of the National Polish Opera, and Ignace Jan Paderewski of world-wide fame. The latter is now known as the musician-statesman, inasmuch as he renounced music for politics in the early days of the formation of the Republic, and carried out with ability the strenuous duties of Prime Minister. His foresight and careful judgement fitted him admirably for this position, as well as for that of first Polish delegate to the League of Nations.

It has been said, with truth, that since 1795, the date of the last partition, the soul of Poland has been kept alive by its literature, its language, and its religion. The best literary works of Poland do, in fact, belong to this period, a tribute, if one were needed, to the intense vitality of the nation. Of the poets of this time, three, who stand



SHY BEAUTY OF RURAL POLAND

The conservatism of the Polish peasant is displayed in many ways, and, despite repeated incursions by fashion, the costumes of both men and women in the Polish countryside retain the style favoured by earlier generations

Photo, Polish Legation

head and shoulders above their fellows, may be mentioned, Mickiewicz, Slowacki and Krasinski.

To the credit of Slowacki and Krasinski stand innumerable achievements, varied and rich in mode of construction, and moving over a wide range of emotion and feeling. But of the three, Adam Mickiewicz is indisputably the greatest, and exercised the most extended influence upon the



BARTER AND BARGAIN BETWEEN GENTILE AND JEW

The small town of Solotwina, in East Galicia, has been ransacked by warring hosts with none too light a hand, but members of the Jewish community continue with racial stubbornness to thrive and push a trade in the most tumble-down establishments—their chief customers, the Ruthenian peasants, of whom two stalwart, personable specimens are here seen about to transact business

Photo, Florence Farmborough

masses. Born in 1798 in Lithuania, the birthplace of the great patriot Kosciuszko, he wrote his most famous work, "Pan Tadeusz," the poem of poems, at the age of thirty-five. It has appeared in an English translation, and overflows with a passionate yearning for his native country, from which he had been driven an exile in 1824.

In the years of gloom which enveloped Poland after the great revolt of 1863, when the few privileges remaining to Russian Poland had been swept away, there arose Henryk Sienkiewicz, the novelist. Looking to the past for his inspiration, he exhibited to his troubled

fellow-countrymen the treasures he had found through his studies of other times, and so extraordinarily life-like were some of the heroes and characters depicted by this writer that even to this day they live as actual historical figures, real beyond question. In the domain of history, his masterpiece is "Quo Vadis," a strikingly vivid picture of Ancient Rome, which has been translated into more than thirty languages.

Present-day conditions are so favourable, and the Poles are themselves responding to their new environment with such discretion, that they should be well able to hold their own in the

POLAND & THE POLES

very forefront of civilization. Their mental apathy, a natural outcome of the external restraint to which they had been subjected for so long, is now vanishing and, with it, many defects and deficiencies in the general education of the people. Schools are increasing; higher education is coming more within the reach of those desiring it; while the Universities—interesting historical buildings, Cracow University was founded in 1364—are open to all.

As a country, Poland has but few beautiful features. In East Galicia she is seen perhaps in her most picturesque aspect. Here in the Carpathian highland and intervening valleys dwell many Ruthenians, or Red Russians, a sturdy, handsome people, found more particularly among the rural population. Nearly all are Uniats, that is to say, members of a section of the Greek Orthodox Church which in 1595 united with the See of Rome, and they include a highly

intelligent class, as well as a peasant, mainly illiterate, element. A gathering of the mountaineering peasant class always presents a brilliant spectacle, as a result of the multi-hued costumes and elaborately-embroidered sheepskin coats.

The Tatras, a central section of the Carpathians, are a mountain range of majestic beauty. To many people their wild and unspoilt grandeur is calculated to call forth a more ardent wonder than does the "matchless glory" of the peerless peaks of Switzerland. The peasantry of the Tatra regions are distinguished by many delightful characteristics. They excel in coloured broderies and decorative leather-work, and are adepts at wood-carving—and this in spite of the crudeness of their implements. Specimens of their handiwork, in particular from the Zakopane district, may be found in many of the large towns of Central Europe.



RED RUSSIAN WORKMEN ON THE OILFIELDS OF BITKÓW

The Ruthenian peasant plays no mean rôle in the petroleum industry of East Galicia. He assists in the erection of the derricks, and is well versed in the manipulation of the complicated mechanism necessary to the sinking of a well. He is a wiry, able-bodied labourer, and under sympathetic supervision displays fine powers of endurance and a remarkable aptitude for work

Photo, Florence Farmborough

POLAND & THE POLES

With respect to the Austrian Poles, it should be remembered that they were not subjected to the same severity of treatment as were their compatriots in Prussia and Russia, but were allowed a fair amount of freedom and a measure of self-government. This reacted favourably on the Poles in that part of the world, who set about organizing and developing their own societies. They were permitted also to have their own schools and their two Universities, and were not hindered from occupying certain official positions. On the other hand, the intellectual life of Russian

Poland had to exist as best it could. In order to bring about the denationalization of the people the Polish language was proscribed. All instruction was carried on in Russian. Even in their play hours, children were not allowed to speak their own tongue—which is not unlike Russian, spelt differently, however, and written with Latin letters, and is distinctly of a more sibilant nature. One result of this attempted Russification of the Poles was a high percentage of illiteracy, since the people chose to be ignorant rather than read and write in Russian. As an

example of the treatment measured out by the Tsarist regime, it should be noted that the Censor, established in Warsaw, saw fit to prohibit a wide range of books of such authors as Byron and John Stuart Mill. Not only was the reading of the works of Mickiewicz, Slowacki, Krasinski, and Lelewel (the national historian) forbidden, but the very names of these writers were not allowed to be mentioned. Even in 1905 Slowacki's great tragedy "Mazepa," was brought before the public as from the pen of a certain unknown J. S.

The Poles are one of the numerous subdivisions of the Slavonic race. Some twenty-five million of them live in Poland, and about five million are scattered abroad in foreign lands, the majority being in the United States. In the American settlements, Polish is spoken even more than English. Children are taught their own language, and all can sing the National Hymn



IN THE FAMOUS RAINBOW WOOL OF LOWICZ

Lowicz is renowned for its coloured wools, and Lowicz girls for their handsome rainbow costumes. The striped, quasi-crinoline skirt and neat bodice present a delightful medley of soft rich hues, enhanced by endless strings of amber or coral beads

Photo, Polish Legation



HOME LIFE IN AN OIL-PRODUCING REGION OF NEW POLAND

Petroleum has been found in considerable quantities at and about Pasieczna, a sequestered village lying among the Galician hills in the vicinity of Nadworna. The homesteads of the "oilmen" are built in simple style, generally of wood; and there is an alluring homeliness and a warmth of hospitality in these remote dwellings which make pleasant memories for the stranger

Photo, Florence Farmborough

of Poland: "Jeszcze Polska nie zginela" (Poland is not yet lost). Now that their faith has been justified, thousands of these voluntary exiles have returned to their newly-revived national State.

Though of medium height the Poles are a finely-built people, and an easy and a graceful carriage lends them a certain air of distinction as contrasted with other Slavonic races. They are for the most part fair-haired, but tend in the south to a somewhat darker complexion. Among other qualities, bravery, courtesy, and hospitality stand out conspicuously. The Polish women are often very handsome and gifted, and, in addition to beauty, they have a natural vivacity which greatly enhances their general attractiveness.

Roman Catholicism is the dominant form of religion, but there exist also numberless Protestants, Greek Catholics, Jews, Uniats, and a few Mahomedans. The Jews of Poland, the majority of

whom inhabit the towns, and are most numerous in Warsaw, where they total nearly 37 per cent. of the population, should be reckoned as a separate people. The poorer class lead a life apart and take no actual share in Polish affairs; they attend their own schools, and among themselves speak their own language, commonly known as Yiddish, a jargon of medieval German mingled with Hebrew. Old-time customs, religious and secular, are carefully observed; while the gabardine and fur-rimmed felt hat of bygone generations are still in vogue. These, together with the long beard and side-ringlets, form the lineaments of the typical Polish Jew. Among the educated Jews, however, are many who by their energy and ability have risen to high positions in life, especially where commerce, industry, and the professions are concerned. Some of these take an active and efficient part in national affairs.



RADIANT RUTHENIAN GIRLHOOD IN THE ZALESZCZYKI NEIGHBOURHOOD

The Ruthenians, or Red Russians, in East Galicia form the mass of the labouring population, and are for the most part a poor and backward people. While young the peasant girls are exceedingly attractive, and in their bright costumes, cleverly embroidered and worn with multitudinous chains of corals and coins, impart a touch of romantic charm to the rustic surroundings

Photo, Polish Legation

The industrial resources of Poland have been turned to great account during the last half century, and Lodz is a striking instance of what has been done. Here is a town of some 500,000 inhabitants, a great manufacturing centre, aptly described as the "Manchester of Poland." Devoid of any particular interest from an architectural point of view, a certain dignity gathers about the city in consequence of its association with the ceaseless activities that go with important industrial undertakings.

The mineral resources of the country exceed in value and importance even the manufactures. A very considerable supply of oil, salt, coal, and iron is distributed to Europe from Polish territory. Steel, zinc, and lead are also produced in various districts of the country, and mineral springs are

numerous. In the vicinity of Cracow are the famous salt-mines of Bochnia and Wieliczka, mentioned in history so far back as the twelfth century. Wieliczka has proved a great attraction to many foreign visitors, some of whom declare that the miners live in a veritable fairyland of glittering crystal, and, indeed, the magnificent ballroom, chapels with altars and statuary—all constructed from rock salt—are a sight not readily effaced from the memory. In Galicia oil-fields are found, worked chiefly by foreign syndicates. In 1912, petroleum was being exploited in 389 places, and an eminent Polish scientist has calculated that rock oil-bearing land in Galicia covers no fewer than 19,760 acres, which would contain many millions of tons of raw petroleum.

The Vistula is Poland's largest and most important waterway; a river that



COAT OF MANY COLOURS OF AN EAST GALICIAN PEASANT BELLE

Worn in both summer and winter, the sheepskin coat forms the chief attraction of the Ruthenian costume. When arriving at a marriageable age the young girl will often spend all her scanty earnings on a brand new sheepskin, usually beautifully ornamented with elaborate designs in coloured leather, which she wears with a variegated skirt, coloured kerchief, and glistening strings of coral

Photo, Florence Farmborough

POLAND & THE POLES

has always been closely associated with the history of the country. When the kingdom of Poland was at the height of its greatness and prosperity, it formed the chief channel of communication; but declined in utility and worth when the kingdom fell, for Russia and Austria made no attempt on their part to improve it for navigation purposes. As a French cleric observes: "The Vistula was condemned to the humiliating role of general uselessness. She, too, is a victim of the partition of Poland." Prussia, however, saw to it that her share in the great river should be utilized to

some purpose. Hence it was that Danzig (Gdansk), an interesting old town at the mouth of the river, and always a seaport of some importance, lost but little of its celebrity as a commercial centre. To-day Danzig (see page 1569) is a free port; the Prussian hold upon it has relaxed; and the Vistula may once again bring the riches of Poland's mines, fields, and forests to the sea—a fact of paramount importance, seeing that thereby the development of the economic life of the country is guaranteed. The long-awaited Constitution of the New



HOMELY BUT ARTISTIC PEASANTRY OF THE TATRAS

The peasants of the Tatra Mountains, the highest group of the Carpathian system, possess surprising vigour and intelligence. They excel in all peasants' arts and crafts, building their houses and churches in a style all their own, producing carvings and embroideries of great beauty and originality, and even their workaday garments are not devoid of imagination and artistic taste

Photo, Polish Legation



GAIETY OF SUNDAY RAIMENT IN A SUN-RAYED VILLAGE RETREAT

In this pleasing group of peasant women, assembled by a village shrine, the textile art of Lowicz is displayed in its brightest broad-striped beauty. Orange and rose mix with vivid purples and deep chocolate hues, presenting a rich, animated blur of colour, bright and gay, as though a coloured picture had stepped out of a story-book and come to life

Photo, Polish Legation

Poland was duly proclaimed and ratified in March, 1921. In every large town a special High Mass was celebrated; as a definite act of thanksgiving. It was an unforgettable sight watching the joyous throngs of people passing to and fro from S. John's Cathedral in the capital city. To these multitudes it was the "day of days" that had dawned. Ever since their complete liberation from the Triple Powers in 1919, they had dreamed of this event, which represented the culmination not only of their own hopes, but the hopes of generations of Poles before them. During those two years, the Sejm, or Diet, composed of the people's representatives, faithfully observing the spirit of the inspiring motto emblazoned in the Legislative Chamber of the Senate-house, "Salus

Republicae Suprema Lex" (the welfare of the Republic is the supreme law), had laboured with untiring zeal for this greatest and most momentous occasion in the modern history of their country.

Strange as it may seem, this scene was little more than a replica of another which 130 years before took place in the same streets, for it was in May, 1791, in Warsaw—the "Heart of Poland," an ancient city of decayed splendour, rich in wonderful but terrible memories—that Poland proclaimed a Constitution in which the Polish nobles voluntarily relinquished many of their privileges. The Constitution, first in Europe to recognize the people's rights to self-government, preceding by only four months the final vote of the French Constitution of September, 1791, called

POLAND & THE POLES

forth the admiration of Burke, Walpole, and many other distinguished men on the Continent. But it was this political step that hastened Poland's downfall. Her enemies feared the effect which this new form of government might have when brought into juxtaposition with their



SOLID LOWICZ RESPECTABILITY

With his healthy frame, good-humoured face, top-boots, broad-striped trousers, much-braided coat, and many-buttoned vest, he represents the burly genial youth of the Lowicz peasant community

Photo, Polish Legation

own arbitrary and autocratic methods, and soon succeeded in breaking up the Polish entity.

An illustrious warrior of our own day, not to be omitted even from a brief résumé such as the present, and one who was for more than four years the presiding genius of Poland's destinies, is Marshal Josef Pilsudski, ex-Chief of the Polish State. On the outbreak of the Great War, he gathered his legions together with promptitude, for the hope of regaining their freedom filled all hearts, and all through the horrors of war, amidst the openly or covertly hostile armies of Germany and Russia, he succeeded in preserving his legions to the end. Upon the defeat of Germany it was Pilsudski who organized the new national army and formed the first Government of Independent Poland. Stanislaw Wojciechowski, who is well known as the leader of the Polish cooperative movement, was elected President in December, 1922.

Peace was first brought to Poland and amicable relations between herself and her neighbours were established in 1921. That, too, was the first year which saw the resuscitation of many ruined factories, and the initiation of new industries, aided by advances made from the Treasury. Although the country ran a grave risk in thus financing local industrial enterprise, as may be judged from the fact that since the beginning of 1922 a considerable shortage of money and restriction of credit have had to be recognized, the risk was more than justified by the splendid results in the strengthening of trade and commerce, and a most satisfactory increase in production.

As to agriculture, greater acreage has been brought under cultivation, and harvests are increasing, so that a large surplus can be placed aside for export. Thus it is plain to see that Poland is creating a new country from her devastated land, for there is hardly any other country in Europe that has been so ruthlessly wasted by fire and sword as



PIPER OF THE TATRAS

Although well-seasoned with five-score years, he can pipe as gay and tuneful an air as ever he piped in the heyday of his youth

Poland, and by giving fresh impetus to her industrial life she holds the future in her hands—a future rich with promise, zealously guarded by the proud White Eagle of her national standard.

The Poles are entirely absorbed in the national cause—the free exercise of the freedom of Poland. To them freedom is a most holy thing, and they move warily lest in their enthusiasm they should wreak injury to that which they hold most precious. During the relentless persecution by

foreign rulers they strained every nerve in their struggle for national existence. There has been, in fact, no European war waged during the last century in the name of freedom in which the Poles have not taken part, for all who fought for freedom were to them as brothers. The Great War has hastened the issues, and the dream of independence and full political liberty has been realized by many a down-trodden, suppressed people. In the case of Poland, a glorious resurrection of the whole country has been witnessed: the passage from hope to magnificent reality; the movement from out of the depths of misery and despair to the heights of exultant joy; the transition from Poland fettered to Poland free.



THREE MINSTRELS OF THE MOUNTAINS

Among the sturdy mountaineers inhabiting the wild fastnesses of the Tatra regions are many born musicians. Each feast-day finds them at their glad task, delighting the listener's ear and filling forest and glen with echoes of their haunting melodies

Photos, Mrs. Fanshawe



WHERE THE POLES LOVE OF MUSIC IS MADE MANIFEST: VILLAGE BAND AND CHOIR

The national music of Poland is of ancient origin and represents the individuality and romanticism of her people, which no fetters and no sufferings have ever been able to destroy. History shows that the early Poles were devoted to music, a devotion that has developed through the centuries, expressing itself in famous polonaises, mazurkas, and in many other characteristic compositions. The band, sometimes assisted by a choir of young girls, is the pride of the Polish village, its picked musicians being carefully guided through the intricate passages of spirited dance tunes or stately sacred music by the baton of a veteran conductor

Photo, Polish Legation

Poland

II. The Epic Story of an Heroic People

By Lieut.-Col. F. E. Whitton, C.M.G.

Author of "A History of Poland"

THE early history of Poland is wrapt in obscurity, but the actual ancestors of the Poles seem to have been the Sarmatians, a tribe located more particularly on the banks of the Vistula, who revolted against the Roman legions led by Varus. From these tribes there slowly evolved a nation in spite of the steady pressure of its western neighbours Germany.

The Christian Germans were inclined to adopt a policy of interested evangelisation of their pagan neighbours, and the acceptance of Christianity thus became a political necessity for the Poles. In 965, Miesko, Duke of Poland, received the rite of baptism. Unlike Russia, whose creed came from Byzantium, Poland received her religion from Rome, a circumstance which was to affect the history of the latter country.

The introduction of Christianity, although it alleviated, did not render Poland altogether immune from, the necessity of struggling for her existence against her powerful neighbours. The Duke of Poland had to acknowledge himself a vassal of the Emperor, and on the other flank Russia was slowly but surely expanding westwards. But the military talents of Bolesaus, the son of Miesko, did much to restore the misfortunes of his country. Before his death Poland was a kingdom, containing over 200,000 inhabitants, and stretching from the Baltic to the Carpathians. A thoroughly incapable ruler followed, but the latter's son Casimir, "The Restorer," proved himself worthy of the confidence of his people.

Casimir died in 1058. Of his foreign policy the outstanding feature was the defeat he inflicted on the savage Prussians of the Baltic littoral. These pagans, however, continued to give much trouble until, in 1230, the Poles called in the aid of the Teutonic Knights, a German monastic-military Order which had come into being during the Crusades. The

Knights carried out their mission by a war of extermination, and were soon followed by enterprising German traders. Repudiating their promise to evacuate most of the conquered territory, the Teutonic Knights consolidated themselves in their new possession, and Poland at the end of the thirteenth century found that she had as her north-eastern neighbour a powerful German state, half ecclesiastic and half military.

Meanwhile, Poland had been engaged in a series of struggles with Russia, Bohemia, and Hungary; efforts to escape from the strangling coils of the Empire; and in a conflict with Rome. The murder of the Bishop of Cracow drew from Gregory VII. the thunder of the Interdict. The royal title was withdrawn, and the sovereigns of Poland reverted to their former status of dukes. For a time the incubus of Germanism was thrown off by the crushing defeat of the Emperor at Breslau, in 1110, but against this was the overthrow of the Poles at the hands of the Russians and Hungarians in 1139. Another evil for Poland was the Slav tradition of supreme power as a divisible heritage. Bolasaus III. divided his



THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND

POLAND : HISTORICAL SKETCH

dominions among his sons. Thus opened a period of 150 years distinguished by the dissensions of rival princes, the decay of a once powerful nation, and the helplessness of Poland against the terrible Tartar invasions.

Union of Poland and Lithuania

The monarchy was restored in 1320, when Ladislas (or Vladislas) the Dwarf was crowned king and took up anew the task of the unification of his country. The situation of Poland was still far from secure. Hungary, Bohemia, and the Marks of the Holy Roman Empire were still dangers; to the north were the powerful Teutonic Knights, whose headquarters had been shifted from Venice to the Vistula; while to the east lay the new and vigorous power of Lithuania. It was their relation with this power that did most to determine the future of the Poles. After the death of Louis, King of Hungary and Poland, his heiress Hedwiga, though betrothed at the time to William Duke of Austria, was persuaded by the Polish nobles to wed Jagiello, the Grand Prince of Lithuania. The latter embraced Catholicism and, as King of Poland in right of his wife, took the name of Ladislas II. A union between the two countries followed, but proved to be unworkable. Nevertheless, community of interests and the alliance of the royal houses brought about a lasting bond, and Poland and Lithuania were finally united by the Treaty of Lublin in 1569.

With the death of Sigismund II. in 1572 the direct line of the Jagiellos ended. For nearly two centuries the kings of this great dynasty had guided the fortunes of the state. Under their firm and wise rule Poland had become great among the nations of Europe. Henceforth, until the disasters which extinguished her existence, the history of Poland is one of decline.

Disruption stayed by Sobieski

The Crown, always elective in theory, now became so in fact. A century of internal disorder was the result. There were also troubles from outside. In 1647 a great Cossack rebellion broke out in the Ukraine, and the Polish troops were severely defeated. Seven years later the Russians invaded Poland, and in 1655 Charles X. of Sweden forced war on the country. The drain on the national exchequer was great, and owing to the persistent refusal of the Diet to vote adequate supplies, the king, John Casimir (1648-1668), was compelled to sell to the Elector of Brandenburg exemption from the duty of doing homage for his Prussian domains. In this reign the privilege of the "liberum veto" began to be used with pernicious effect.

Early in the sixteenth century the principle had been accepted that absolute unanimity was requisite for all enactments, and during the reign of John Casimir the veto was persistently used by recalcitrant members to explode the Diet. Disgusted with his subjects, the king abdicated. The decline of Poland was for the moment stayed by the military genius of Sobieski, who was elected king as John III. His relief of Vienna in 1683, when it was almost at the mercy of the all-conquering Turks, forms one of the most glorious episodes of Polish history. But after his death in 1696 the condition of Poland drifted into deplorable and increasing anarchy.

A survey of Poland as it existed in the middle of the eighteenth century reveals so many anomalies and inconsistencies as to make it difficult to decide whether it was a great or third-rate nation. For centuries Poland had withstood the growing power of Germanism. She had been the centre of the great Catholic reaction after the Reformation. She had played her part as the arbiter of the destinies of Central Europe. And it had been Poland that had rescued Europe from the tide of Turkish invasion.

At the Mercy of Powerful Neighbours

These are unquestionably the records of a Great Power. But on the other side of the shield the littleness of Poland is clearly visible. The country was unquestionably decadent. It was afflicted with the most vicious constitution conceivable; in the real characteristics of a state it was as lacking as the Holy Roman Empire. The elective system of monarchy was fatal to consistency and stability. The landowners formed a powerful and exclusive caste, selfish to a degree, and intent on magnifying its own importance. There was no real middle class. The lower class consisted of serfs or slaves. The king was a mere figurehead.

The country to a man resented taxation. In the words of Sydney Smith, "they preferred any load of infamy, however great, to any burden of taxation, however light." The system by which a single discontented senator could paralyse all legislation by the mere utterance of four syllables, "Nie pozwalam" (I do not assent), was the very negation of government; and the thwarted members were then wont to summon a rival assembly and to support it by force of arms. Such a country was bound to be at the mercy of powerful neighbours.

Unfortunately for Poland, on the death of Augustus III., in 1763, three neighbouring thrones were filled by exceptionally able sovereigns. Two of these, Frederick the Great of Prussia and



CORNER OF THE RYNEK IN THE ANCIENT CAPITAL OF ALL POLAND

Vivid memories of past glory still linger about the time-worn streets of Cracow. Enshrined within the Cathedral sleep Poland's most honoured dead, while the rynek, or market place, witness of many a resplendent coronation pageant, contains ancient structures of great architectural merit; among them the twin-towered Panna Marya, Church of the Virgin, externally plain and austere, but its interior glowing with dim rich colours, Gothic splendours, and historic treasures

POLAND: HISTORICAL SKETCH



HALE AND HEARTY HIGHLANDER

He is one with his rugged surroundings in the lofty Tatras to whose winter winds and summer suns he owes his stoutness of heart and sturdiness of frame

Photo, Polish Legation

Catherine of Russia, were land grabbers pure and simple. The third, Maria Theresa of Austria, was of tenderer mould; but though "she was always in tears, she always took her share."

Catherine and Frederick soon came to an agreement as to the king they would foist on Poland. This was Stanislas Poniatowski, a young Pole of ordinary lineage who had once been one of Catherine's numerous lovers. Although the new sovereign at first displayed a weak flavour of patriotism, he was really bound hand and foot to Russia. A religious feud in Poland soon gave Catherine and Frederick their opportunity for further action. The Roman Catholic party had got the upper hand, whereupon Russia promptly espoused the cause of her Lithuanian co-religionists of

the Greek Church, while Prussia took up the cause of the Lutherans.

The Poles made the fatal mistake of appealing to Turkey, a non-Christian power. Filled with virtuous indignation, Russia, Prussia, and Austria hurried troops into Poland, and in 1772 signed a Treaty of Partition by which Poland was deprived of about one-third of her population. Twenty-one years later about one-half of the remaining area of Poland was divided by Russia and Prussia, the lion's share falling to the former Power.

Two years more and the sentence "Finis Poloniae" was pronounced, for, by the Third Partition, what was left of the country was parcelled out between the three neighbouring powers. Thus came about one of the most remarkable occurrences in history, the complete disappearance of a Great Power which was not so much defeated as enslaved; not conquered, but partitioned; removed from the comity of nations and divided up among her neighbours as a thing ownerless and dead.

The Poles clung to the hope of recovering their independence by French aid, and with a splendid loyalty remained faithful to Napoleon even after the disastrous Russian campaign. Napoleon, however, merely used Poland for his own ends and involved her in his ruin. After the Congress of Vienna the restoration of Poland seemed as far off as ever. Poland was now under five administrations. There was still an Austrian Poland. There was still a Prussian Poland. The Lithuanian territories were incorporated as an integral part of the Russian Empire. Out of the residuum there was set up an autonomous kingdom, to be ruled by the Emperor of Russia as its king. Finally, there was the microscopic republic of Cracow guaranteed by the Great Powers.

In the century between the Congress of Vienna and the outbreak of the Great War, Poland experienced the rule of three masters. In Russian Poland the humane and liberal sentiments of the Emperor Alexander I. seemed to promise amelioration, but when he was succeeded by his reactionary brother, Nicholas I., the Poles were ruled with a rod of iron. Insurrections in 1830 and 1863 hardened the hearts of the Russian officials, and in 1874 the last claim of Poland to be considered a separate nation disappeared, for in that year the vice-royalty was abolished and Poland became merely a Russian province.

The attitude of Russia towards Poland may be summed up in one word, Russification. But when the war of 1914 broke out the Russian commander-in-chief, in a stirring proclamation, informed the Poles that the dream of their fathers

POLAND : HISTORICAL SKETCH

and their forefathers would be realized and that the resurrection of the Polish nation was about to take place.

At first there was a genuine attempt by Prussia to conciliate Polish sentiment. The Polish language and nationality were officially recognized, and the white eagle of Poland was impaled on the black eagle of Prussia as the Polish arms. In the year 1848 considerable sympathy was felt by the liberal doctrinaires of Prussia for the Polish cause. But the prospect of the rise of Poland under Russian protection and the importance of Danzig and the Vistula hardened the heart of Bismarck. He was perfectly frank in the matter. "The Polish question is to us a matter of life or death" were his words. His policy became ruthless. Severe measures were taken to break down Polish nationality and to stamp out the Polish language. Even confiscation of Polish land and the substitution of German immigrants were resorted to.

As for Austria, her treatment of Poland was at first arbitrary and ruthless, but later a change became apparent. The reason is to be found in the long rivalry between Austria and Prussia, which induced the former to rally her Slav subjects to her side. After 1866 the claims of Austria for supremacy in Germany were for ever shattered. In her humiliation she had to look round for allies, and found them in the Poles. And the Poles were all the more welcome as they alone

of all the Slav peoples were opposed to Russia. Concessions to the Poles were therefore the order of the day, and when the crisis of 1914 arrived a conference of Polish members of the Galician Diet passed a formal resolution affirming their loyalty to the House of Hapsburg.

The Republic of Poland was proclaimed in November, 1918, and under the Treaty of Paris, June 28, 1919, its independence was guaranteed. As far as possible it was reconstituted within the limits of the eighteenth century "Polish commonwealth." Danzig was made a free city, to which Poland was guaranteed access; while in the north and in the south-east the destiny of two areas was to be decided by plebiscite. As for the eastern frontier, the defection of Russia from the Allies and her relapse into chaos had the effect of leaving this boundary undetermined and of exposing Poland to attack by Bolshevik forces.

French and British troops were sent to the country during the transitional period, the situation being still further complicated by an insurrection under the leadership of Korfanty, directed against the Supreme Council. As the whole of Eastern and Central Europe may be said to be still in the melting-pot, it is too early yet to prophesy the future which lies in store for Poland. But there is a strong feeling of sympathy in Western Europe for the most unfortunate and not the least noble of European peoples.

POLAND : FACTS AND FIGURES

The Country

Includes a considerable part of the Great European Plain, and is bounded north by the Baltic Sea and Lithuania, east by Russia, south by Rumania and Czechoslovakia, and west by Germany. It is drained by a number of important rivers, including the Vistula and Dniester, while in the south the wooded range of the Carpathian mountains forms a natural boundary. Total area, comprising former state of Posen, East Galicia, Russian Poland, and parts of German Silesia and Vilna, about 140,000 square miles, with an estimated population of some 30,000,000.

Constitution and Government

Except for government officials and the military, franchise is universal for both sexes at the age of twenty-one. Government republican in form. President elected by National Assembly for seven years, and has power to summon and dismiss the Sejm, consisting of Senate or upper house and lower house or Diet. He is not politically or personally responsible, must be a Polish citizen of not less than forty-one, and commands army, except in war-time. Republic divided for electoral purposes into sixty-four districts.

Commerce and Industries

Agriculture chief occupation of people. Some eighty-five per cent. of area is productive. All forests land are State-owned. Main crops include wheat, rye, barley, oats, and potatoes. Considerable numbers of livestock are maintained.

There are iron and steel furnaces and rolling mills. Very large mineral salt resources, while petroleum and rock oil are worked. In 1921, 2,027,835 tons of goods were exported and 4,745,264 tons imported. The zloty—one gold franc, has been sanctioned as national currency.

Communications

Poland has about 10,000 miles of railway, all State-owned, and there are more than 30,000 miles of road. Some 51,600 miles of telegraph, and 7,600 of telephone line, and over 1,500 post and telegraph offices, with over 2,000 postal agencies. There are also about 1,800 miles of navigable waterway.

Religion and Education

No established church and all creeds tolerated. Roman Catholicism the religion of majority. Education free and elementary education obligatory. There are more than 25,000 elementary schools with over 2,500,000 pupils and 43,000 teachers. There are also universities at various towns, including Vilna, Posen, Cracow, and Warsaw.

Chief Towns

Warsaw, capital (estimated population 931,000), Lodz (451,800), Lemberg (219,000), Cracow (181,700), Posen (169,810), Sosnowiec (86,700), Czenstochowa (80,500), Bialystok (77,000), Lublin (94,500), Przemyśl (48,000), Grodno (35,000).



PORTUGUESE FISHWIVES AT THE LISBON MARKET SECURING SUPPLIES FOR THEIR DAILY ROUNDS

On arrival at the quay the fish are unloaded from the boats and dumped at the market. An auction is then held at which the excitement grows with the clamour, till both are at top pitch. Then when the goods are distributed, the fishwives, in their wide, short skirts and flat hats, on which they balance their baskets, set off to all parts of the city to cry their wares. Portuguese waters are prodigal of fish, and sometimes a hundred different varieties are on sale